



publicherald.org

Public Herald, Inc. is a nonprofit investigative news and public education organization. PH would not exist without the continued support of our Members. To become a Lifetime Member of PH and keep this work going, please visit:
<http://www.publicherald.org/donate>

truth
+
creativity

PUBLIC HERALD

BRIEF

Shale gas extraction has inevitable impacts. In places like New York, the impacts are being studied before any risks are taken with. In Pennsylvania, impacts are ongoing with little honest attention and almost no help for the victims. With this in mind, Public Herald has prepared the following Action Brief on behalf of the public.

"Everything is Downstream"



www.tripledividefilm.org

The **first** line of defense against being a victim is to be educated. Get information from many, diverse sources. Understand the specific impacts and how they are being dealt with.

The **second** line of defense is to gather baseline data. Get your water tested first. Then continue with soil, air, blood, and anything else you can think of and afford to have tested. These tests can be compared to others in the future.

Third, educate others. Let your township, county, state and federal officials know what you've found and how they can help. Host a Triple Divide night with your family, friends and neighbors. Write to your local papers and radio stations.

Finally, help those who have been impacted. Many victims feel abandoned and some are alone. Let them know it's safe for them to share their story with you.

There are many resources about shale gas extraction. Here are some of the ones we use most, many of which are focused in PA.

*If you have health concerns you feel are related to oil and gas activity, call Southwest PA Environmental Health Project, (724) 260-5504.

*To report an incident threatening environmental or human health, contact your local authorities, your local press, as well as PA DEP, 1-800-541-2050.

TRACKING SHALE GAS ACTIVITY

FracTracker

<http://www.fractracker.org/maps/>

Find wells, permits, violations, and water bodies near you; (717) 756-2637.

SkyTruth

<http://alerts.skytruth.org/>

Receive email alerts when activity is in your area; (304) 885-4581.

WATER TESTING & MONITORING

Southwest PA Environmental Health Project

<http://www.environmentalhealthproject.org/>

Water Well Contamination Ranking System & Monitoring Strategy" by PA's only shale gas health organization; (724) 260-5504.

Mountain Watershed Association

<http://www.mtwatershed.com/marcellus.html> Scroll down to "Your Water: What Can You Do?" for a list of certified water testing labs; (724) 455-4200.

Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring

<http://www.dickinson.edu/about/sustainability/allarm/>

Focus on stream monitoring for background or baseline data; (717) 245-1565.

Triple Divide Caretakers

<http://triplivedividecaretakers.org/>

Stream monitoring, visual assessment, public education, citizen response; (724) 388-0464; triplivedividecaretakers@gmail.com.

LAND, AIR, LEASE & MEDIA

Landowners & Leasing

Landman Report Card

<http://www.landmanreportcard.com/>

Tips for handling gas industry landmen and leasing, with landowner reviews about specific landmen.

Landowner's Toolkit

http://mtwatershed.com/resources/marcellus/120917_toolkit.pdf

A Marcellus Primer and leasing tips from Mountain Watershed Association; (724) 455-4200.

List of The Harmed

<http://pennsylvaniaallianceforcleanwaterandair.wordpress.com/the-list>

Documented cases of negative impact from shale gas extraction & development.

Media Covering Shale Gas

Public Herald <http://www.publicherald.org> (724) 388-0464

ProPublica <http://propublica.org> (212) 514-5250

Allegheny Front <http://www.alleghenyfront.org/> (412) 697-2933

TRIPLE DIVIDE TALKING POINTS

PREDRILL TEST SCANDAL

1. DEP allowed Chesapeake Energy to dismiss predrill tests in two of Pa.'s highest profile cases: Bradford County Atgas Blowout & Sherry Vargson.

CLASS II INJECTION WELL

1. 1 of every 6 oil and gas waste injection wells have [construction] well integrity violations.

2. Each new well drilled acts as a Class II Injection Well, unpermitted by EPA.

PRESSURE BULB

1. Where is the regulation for the maximum amount of pressure permitted for fracking a gas well in Pennsylvania? Hydrostatic pressure allows for fluids to communicate from deep shale layers towards the surface.

NEBRASKA GROUT STUDY

1. No grout that stays adhered to the casing.

2. When grout fails, companies perform 'cement squeezes.'

VIOLATIONS & DRILL WASTE PITS

1. Landowners are not required to be notified about violations, like illegal burials of radioactive shale waste.

2. There is very little oversight with regard to shale drilling waste. Companies only have to report the amount, destination, and testing of waste once a year. Waste is not tracked per load by the state.

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE POLLUTION

1. 80% of drinking water in PA comes from forested watersheds.

2. Repeat violators continue to receive permits to operate near Exceptional Value & High Quality streams.

ECOTERRORISM (RIGHTS)

1. Pennsylvania's Constitution, Article I, section 27 states: "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."

2. Ecoterrorism is being used by natural gas industries as a PR weapon to weaken constitutional rights and prevent transparency.

STATE REGULATIONS

1. The new oil and gas laws in PA, Act 13, allows oil and gas development to occur in residential areas and removes municipal and community rights to appropriately keep this industrial activity within industrial zones.

2. While Act 13 increases setbacks and institutes an "Impact Fee" to help deal with the negative impacts of oil and gas activity, the fee is based on wells, not pipelines, compressor station, or waste disposal sites. Setbacks from EV waters are still minimal.